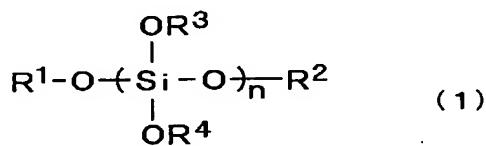


## ABSTRACT

A coating composition curable by active energy rays which composition can form an transparent inorganic cured film having an excellent appearance, a 5 mar resistance, and film adhesion properties is provided. The coating composition contains a siloxane compound (A) obtainable by the hydrolysis and condensation of an alkyl silicate expressed by the following general formula (1)



wherein  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$ , and  $\text{R}^4$  represent an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms or an acyl group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, respectively, and  $n$  indicates an 10 integer from 3 to 20, and a cation polymerization initiator (B) having a sensitivity to the active energy rays. A method for forming a protective film by applying the coating composition on the surface of a plastic substrate and then irradiating the composition with active energy rays to form the protective film is also provided.